

***For Your Information***  
***Weekly***  
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF  
April 24, 2015

**The Clewiston Spray Pad has “NEW” operating hours. Beginning April 27<sup>th</sup>, the Splash Pad will be opened on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. - Noon and Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**We are looking for volunteers to fill vacancies on our Community Redevelopment Advisory Committee and the Planning & Zoning Board. If you are interested in serving your community in either of these capacities, please call City Clerk Marilyn McCorvey for information.**

**Dates to Remember:**

May 2, 2015 – Brown Sugar Festival Visit their web site [www.1Brownsugarfestival.info](http://www.1Brownsugarfestival.info)

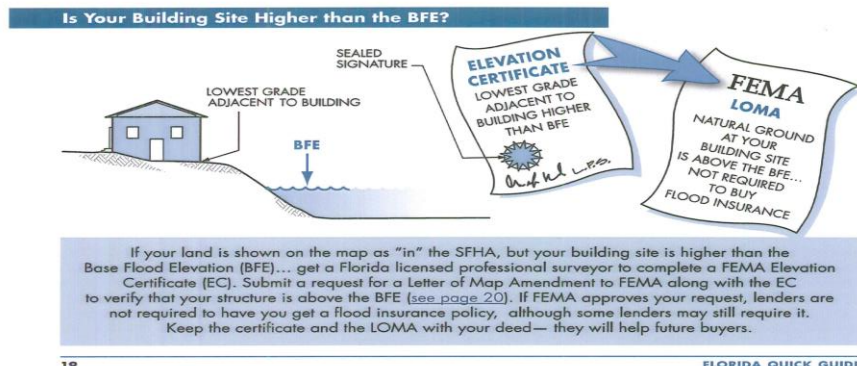
May 14, 2015 – City Commission Workshop

May 18, 2015 – City Commission Meeting and Budget Workshop

**Staff Reports**

**Community Development Director Reese reports:**

- Accident at SR80 & US27, on US27 north involving a semi truck carrying cane rollers. There were no serious injuries.
- We have been experiencing an increase of inquiries about the new floodplain maps that are effective on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Citizens should expect to receive a letter from their lending institution in the next few weeks regarding flood insurance. If your home is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA ) and you have a mortgage, you will likely be required to have flood insurance in order to qualify for federal assistance should there be a flood event in our area.



**Library Director Barrett reports:**

- Summer programs are coming soon, including our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Summer School. This program will begin June 8, 2015 and run through July 2, 2015. Send your little ones out for a fun learning time.
- Annual Library Amnesty week went well. The Library was able to recover 185 items which were counted as lost, for savings to the tune of \$792.72 replacement costs.

**Did You Know?****Libraries are for real life!**

**The current economic climate has made libraries an even more vital part of their communities. It's a national phenomenon reflected in our local library system.**

- 68 percent of Americans have a library card
- Americans check out more than 2 billion items each year from their public libraries; the average user takes out more than seven books a year
- There are more public libraries than McDonald's in the US - a total of 16,541 including branches
- Public libraries are the number one point of online access for people without internet connections at home, school, or work.
- 98.7% of public libraries provide public access to the internet.

**Here are some services and resources provided by your local, Clewiston Library:**

- Resources to learn about resume writing, and how to complete job application forms
- Resources to learn financial management
- Resources to help create small businesses
- Resources to learn about health, nutrition and wellness activities
- Online databases that provide valuable information for businesses
- Computers and Internet access for applying for jobs online, virtual classes and training, distance education, personal research
- Computer training on email, searching, word processing, spreadsheets, PowerPoint and more software programs
- Free email access to apply and receive correspondence about jobs
- Assistance in setting up free email accounts
- Referrals to agencies that provide social services
- Meeting places for businesses, organizations, tutors and students, and language learners
- Staff to proctor exams for correspondence classes, virtual universities, and job qualification tests
- Practice tests, both print and online for various subjects

**Police Chief Gutshall reports:**

- Officers responded to more than 25 scuffles/altercations this week. Several aggressors were arrested for battery, but most victims refused to prosecute or cooperate.
- A woman on West Circle called to report a snake in her yard late one evening. Unfortunately, the complaint did not fit the requirements for a trespass.
- One suspect under arrest for a Domestic Disturbance was found to be in possession of illegal narcotics when he was searched. He was also charged with those violations.
- Officers have been focusing on open containers and loitering on the East end of town. Several arrests were made as a result.
- Patrol answered a complaint of a disturbance at the Adult Welding Class behind the Middle School on Friday. One subject was arrested for trespass. The incident resulted from a disagreement over a woman.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
  - 1116** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
  - 603** Complaints Investigated
  - 29** Arrests Made
  - 43** Traffic Citations Issued
  - 11** Parking Citations Issued
  - 31** Red Light Camera Violations
  - 18** Code Enforcement Violations Issued
  - 64** Merchant Escorts Provided
  - 13** Alarms Responded To
  - 3** Traffic Accidents Investigated

**Public Works Director Scheffler reports:**

- Mosquito Control: We are still monitoring the traps. Residents are urged to start getting ready for the coming mosquito season. Please clean gutters and assure that toys, kiddie pools, and recreational equipment do not hold water for long as standing water creates a prime breeding area for mosquitoes.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff replaced 40 feet of guard rail on West Alverdez at Gloria. (2) Staff pulled maintenance on the drainage system cleaning inlets and removed obstructions and debris from the mouths of culvert openings. (3) A damaged headwall on the East Alverdez canal was repaired this week. (4) Three Florida Hollies were removed from the Berner Road ROW.
- Landscaping: (1) One hundred fifty (150) Caladium bulbs have been planted at the Golf Course. (2) Forty Florida Roses have been ordered for a small planting at the Golf Course and a nice bed in Civic Park.
- Building Maintenance: (1) Staff has started replacing the light diffusers on the lights in the Library. (2) Small plumbing and mechanical repairs were done in several buildings this week.
- Museum Display: The permit application for the concrete pad under the ATHEY Wagon display on Central Ave. has been submitted.
- Pasadena Drainage & Paving Project: The City Attorney is reviewing the agreement between the City and FDOT. We can start the design phase when the agreement has been signed and sent back.

**Recreation Director Ramer reports:**

- CHS Jr. & Sr. Prom will take place at the John Boy Auditorium this Saturday night. Congratulations to the graduating Sr.'s of CHS. Have fun and be safe.
- CHS Boys Tiger Baseball will play Lincoln Park this week for the District 12 4A FHSAA Baseball Championship and the CHS Lady Tigers Softball will play Bishop Verot in the District 12 4A FHSAA Regional Softball Championship this week as well. Good Luck to both teams. GO TIGERS!
- Last weekend at the James Mason Pool in Harlem, we drained, pressure washed, acid washed and refilled the pool. The diatom filters at the James Mason Pool will need to be replaced before the pool can be inspected. We will begin cleaning the deck and the buildings at the C. S. Mott Pool this week and begin the same at the James Mason Pool next week. DOH inspections are tentatively scheduled for April 30th. Our time-goal to open both pools is Memorial Day weekend Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- CIT and LIT applications are available at the Youth Center and must be returned by May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. to the Youth Center.
- Softball Boot Camp and Showcase at Sugarland Sports Complex on Memorial Day weekend has been confirmed! Approximately 75 players will participate in the 2 day showcase and stay overnight in America's Sweetest Town. We are excited to welcome our guests!
- Negotiations are continuing and a "Host Application" has been submitted with Challenge Sports to host a 2-3 day national qualifying 3V3 Soccer Tournament in Clewiston at Sugarland Sports Complex during the summer. More information to follow.
- If you are interested in participating in an adult men's and co-ed softball league this spring, an adult co-ed volleyball league in the early summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- ZUMBA at the Youth Center on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30 p.m. Contact Tanya (our Certified Instructor) directly at (914) 338-6577.
- Go to [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

**Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- Preparations were underway this week for the Brown Sugar Festival. The Electric crew hung the banner, checked all outlets and repaired all street lights in the area. Best wishes for a successful Festival!
- The Electric crew completed the replacement of an underground line in the 200 block of Ridgewood Avenue. Two transformers were replaced this week; one on Mississippi and one on Deane Duff. Osprey nest building prevention is continuing. One device was placed on a pole behind Roland Martin's Marina.
- Sand and Grit removal has begun at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project is expected to last 6-10 days.
- Water/sewer employees Les Garrett and Kelmer Story attended classes to renew their Water Distribution Licenses this week.
- Congratulations to Octavius (Tay) Surgeont and team, runners-up in the 3v3 Sugar Festival Basketball tournament. Tay is employed in the Electric Department.

- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov). You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or call our office.
- **ONLINE UTILITY PAYMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE!** Our Online Utility Website is up and running. Payments can be made by credit or debit card. You can also review your account activity, consumption history and request certain work orders. You can register your account by visiting our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov).